

PROCEEDINGS
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DELPHINIUM VIRIDESCENS AND *SAMBUCUS LEIOSPERMA*, TWO NEW PLANTS FROM THE
NORTHWEST COAST.

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In the collections of plants recently made by the United States Department of Agriculture in Oregon and Washington occur a red-berried elder which apparently should be separated from the other known species, and a remarkable larkspur with greenish-purple flowers, differing conspicuously in this respect from any other American member of the genus. Descriptions of these two plants are given herewith.

***Delphinium viridescens* sp. nov.**

Stem 1 to 1.5 meters high from fascicled subfusiform roots, smooth below or sometimes minutely puberulent, the upper portion and the inflorescence densely pubescent with spreading yellow hairs from glandular flask-shaped bases; basal and cauline leaves glabrous, thin in texture, semicircular in outline, 8 to 10 centimeters broad, on petioles 12 to 16 centimeters long, deeply 5-parted, the divisions 3 to 5-lobed or cleft; upper cauline leaves pubescent, pinnately 3-parted, the divisions 3 to 7-cleft or broadly lobed, often stalked, diminishing upwards and becoming linear; inflorescence a strict narrow raceme about 30 centimeters long, in very robust plants reaching a length of 1 meter; flowers secund or sometimes subdistichous in the raceme, small for the size of the plant, on pedicels about 10 millimeters in length; lower sepals ovate-acuminate, about 8 millimeters long and 5 millimeters wide, pilose when young, becoming nearly glabrous in age, brown tinged with dull purple; spur straight, about 1 centimeter long; laminae of lateral petals deeply cleft, densely pilose, about 5 millimeters long and 4 millimeters wide, dull purple in color, the claws narrow and about 6 millimeters in length; upper petals

40 *Leiberg*—*Delphinium viridescens* and *Sambucus leiosperma*.

about 1.7 centimeters long, including the short spurs, bidentate at the apex; follicles about 7 millimeters long and 2.5 millimeters wide, erect, pubescent; seeds nearly cubical, about 2 millimeters long and of nearly the same width, narrowly scarious-winged at the angles.

Collected near Peshastin, Okanogan County, Washington; altitude, 500 meters; No. 563, Sandberg and Leiberg, 1893. Type specimen in the United States National Herbarium.

A well-marked species and in aspect very different from all our northwestern forms. By its technical characters it occupies an intermediate position between *D. hesperium* and *D. distichum*. From the former it differs in its fusiform roots and much larger, thinner, glabrous, less divided basal leaves; from the latter species it is separated by its conspicuously yellow-pilose inflorescence, its less dissected cauline leaves, shorter follicles, and more open raceme. By the small, inconspicuous brownish or greenish-purple flowers the plant may be separated at a glance from any of the described North American species of *Delphinium*.

The plant is common in the wet meadows along the Wenatchee River, in the State of Washington. It is commonly a very robust species, sometimes reaching a height of 2 meters, the basal leaves often 20 centimeters broad.

***Sambucus leiosperma* sp. nov.**

Shrubby, 1.3 to 2 meters in height, forming with its spreading stems loose open clumps; pith of two-year-old shoots yellowish-brown; leaflets 5 to 7, varying from oblong to lanceolate, 4.5 to 8 centimeters in length, 1.5 to 3 centimeters in width, acute or acuminate, subsessile or short-petioled, sharply serrate, the apices of the teeth usually inflexed, smooth, or with a scattered short pubescence, especially on the petioles and the lower surface of the leaves along the midrib; stipules present on the flowering shoots, subulate, about 1 centimeter long and 0.5 millimeter wide; cyme oblong, somewhat flattened when in fruit, scabrous-puberulent, the branches membranaceously margined at the forks; flowers yellowish-white, drying the same color; berry scarlet, containing 3 to 5 seed-like nutlets, these very smooth, 2 to 3 millimeters long and about 1.5 millimeters wide.

Collected at Crater Lake, Oregon; altitude 2230 meters, No. 370, Coville and Leiberg, 1896. Type specimen in the United States National Herbarium.

This is the red-fruited elder of the higher Cascades of Oregon and Washington. It extends northward also into Alaska, as indicated by specimens in the National Herbarium, collected on Kadiak Island, in 1888, by Mr. C. H. Townsend, naturalist of the

'Albatross.' *S. pubens* Michx., *S. melanocarpa* Gray, and *S. leiosperma* form a group wherein the specific distinctions lie almost wholly in the color of the mature fruit and the character of the surface of the nutlet. To these three species should be added a fourth, the *S. callicarpa* of Greene (as restricted). The character of the hard covering of the nutlets in the latter species is still a matter of uncertainty, as the descriptions contain no reference to this point. Assuming, however, that certain specimens of red-fruited elder in the National Herbarium collected in central and southern California correctly represent that species, we can arrange the group as follows:

Mature fruit scarlet.

- Surface of nutlets transversely rugose.....*S. pubens*.
- Surface of nutlets puncticulate*S. callicarpa*.
- Surface of nutlets smooth*S. leiosperma*.

Mature fruit black.

- Surface of nutlets transversely rugose.....*S. melanocarpa*.